



# Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program

Agenda Dated: October 17, 2013

## October 29, 2013, Management Committee Webinar Draft Agenda

To join the webinar, please follow the directions below. If you have not previously used Verizon Web Ex conferencing software, please test it prior to the meeting. Contact Angela Kantola ([angela\\_kantola@fws.gov](mailto:angela_kantola@fws.gov)) if you want to do a trial run (~5 min.). This will help us start our meeting promptly at 9:00 a.m. with no delays.

Meeting Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM MOUNTAIN DAYLIGHT TIME. The agenda includes a half hour break for lunch. Angela will start the web portion of the meeting by 8:45 a.m. so that everyone can get connected and work through any technical difficulties before the 9:00 a.m. start time.

### Web Conference Details:

Meeting Number: 742936817

Meeting Passcode: (None)

Meeting Host: ANGELA T KANTOLA

1. To join the meeting, **using the Internet Explorer browser**, go to:

<http://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=742936817&p=&t=c>

2. Enter the required fields (name, e-mail, company) (no passcode required).

3. Indicate that you have read the Privacy Policy.

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### Phone Conference Details:

Please dial in using the toll-free number: 866-762-0576, Participant Passcode: 2759325# (**NOTE: THIS IS A DIFFERENT NUMBER THAN THE ONE TYPICALLY USED FOR PHONE-ONLY CONFERENCES**)

## **CONVENE Webinar: 9:00 a.m.**

1. Introductions, review/modify agenda and time allocations, and appoint a timekeeper
2. Approve August 14-15, 7, 2013, revised draft meeting summary (All, 5 min) – *The revised draft summary (dated October 14, 2013) was posted to the listserv with this meeting agenda. Comments on the summary received from Tom Pitts and Kevin McAbee have been incorporated, but the Management Committee needs to clarify the question regarding Blue Cut costs in the second bullet under item 4.a.*
3. Colorado River Storage Project presentation (Lynn Jeka, 1 hour) – *As recommended at the last meeting, Lynn Jeka will review the Colorado River Storage Project.*
4. Update on power replacement costs and other (e.g., water user) costs to be included in briefing book pie charts (Kantola, Palmer, Pitts, 15 min) – *The Committee will receive an update on progress to determine power replacement costs so that these costs, and other Program costs (e.g., water users) can be reflected in the 2013-2014 Program Highlights Briefing Book. See Assignment #1 in Attachment 1.*

## ***BREAK (10 min)***

5. [Western Governors Association](#) (Tom Chart, 15 min) – *The Committee will discuss potentially getting the Recovery Program on a Western Governor's Association meeting agenda to: a) educate / remind the Governors about how our the Recovery Programs are working with water users and bringing Federal funds to recover fish; and b) how invasive species are precluding the Program's success.*
6. Developing a Program position (e.g., letter to the appropriate State offices) for Implementation Committee approval on risks associated with energy development in, or in close proximity to designated Critical

Habitat for the Colorado River fish. (Tom Chart, 15 min.) – *On their September webinar, the Implementation Committee agreed that the Program Director's office should work with the Management Committee to develop a Program position (e.g. letter to the appropriate State offices) for Implementation Committee approval on risks associated with energy development in, or in close proximity to designated Critical Habitat for the Colorado River fish. The Committee will discuss a draft letter which the Program Director's office will provide in advance of the webinar.*

7. D.C. trip planning (Shields, Pitts, 15 min.) – *The Committee will discuss plans for the March 2014 briefing trip.*
8. Capital projects updates (Uilenberg 10 min)
  - Tusher Wash
  - OMID
  - Other

**11:30 – Noon: LUNCH BREAK (30 min)**

9. Hydrology/WAC updates (Mohrman, 10 min)
  - Report on White River meetings
  - Update on GRUWAT process
  - Other
10. Sufficient progress (Chart, Kantola, 20 min)
  - RIPRAP addendum – *The Biology Committee will follow through on the proposed RIPRAP addendum at the December Nonnative Fish Workshop*
  - Action item review – *Angela Kantola will provide a list of action items (and their status) from the Service's 2013 Sufficient Progress letter in advance of the webinar.*
11. Recovery plans update (20 min)
  - Progress report (Czapla)
  - Continued discussion of benchmarks/path to recovery (Pitts)
12. Review previous meeting assignments (All, 5 min) – *See Attachment 1.*
13. Schedule next meeting, webinar, or conference call (All, 5 min) – *The Committee typically schedules a webinar or conference call in February.*

**ADJOURN: by 1:00 p.m.**

## Attachment 1

### Previous Meeting Assignments

1. **Tom Pitts** will work with **Clayton Palmer and Brent Uilenberg** and provide a list of additional Program contributions to be added to the Program's budget pie chart that appears in each year's briefing book. *In process.* For the 2012 *Program Highlights*, we used the \$37.4M annualized estimate. By July 2012, **WAPA** will complete modeling and report actual power replacement costs going back to 2001. Subsequently, **WAPA** will provide annual power replacement cost for the previous year each January for inclusion in the *Program Highlights* pie charts. Those pie charts will include a footnote explaining the calculation and assumptions. **Program participants** will identify other significant costs that have not previously reported (e.g., the Granby component of 10,825 which is estimated at \$16M, \$1.25M contributed by Colorado for GVWM and \$1.5M for OMID, CRWCD contributed property for OMID, etc.). **Tom Chart** will ask **Dave Campbell** to work with the SJCC to determine their additional costs not currently reported. *1/30/12: Tom Pitts provided additional costs to be included in the briefing book pie chart; need to follow up with documentation for the record. 3/21/12: Clayton will be asking modelers/analysts to look at economic impact of re-operation of Flaming Gorge Dam beginning in FY2001. Tom Pitts said P.L. 106-392 recognizes power replacement costs as non-reimbursable; is that the same thing as economic costs? John Shields asked why not include the ~7 years of "study flows" preceding 2001. Clayton will do both, since Flaming Gorge was originally reoperated in water year 1991 (a separate table for 2001 and forward will be included responding specifically to the P.L. 106-392). Clayton also will include analysis to show the year in which FG was reoperated under the new EIS (2006 to present). John said he and Robert were asked about retail power cost levels yesterday; Leslie doesn't believe that can be reported since each individual utility has a different amount of hydropower in their mix. Tom Pitts suggested setting up a work group of himself, Leslie, Clayton, Robert Wigington, Angela Kantola and/or Tom Chart; Tom Pitts will send out preliminary materials. 6/26/12: Work group held conference call 4/27/12; Argonne working on power replacement costs, water users working on their additional costs, San Juan also working on their additional costs. 6/22/12: Clayton provided the group a description of how they'll conduct the economic analysis of Flaming Gorge dam reoperation. 1/24/13: The Cost Subcommittee held a call on January 9 and identified the need to outline the process for arriving at fully substantiated power replacement costs going forward. If more substantiated power replacement costs are to be included in the 2014 briefing book, the numbers will need to have been fully vetted and agreed upon by the Management Committee sub-group (and perhaps the Management Committee as a whole) and go through the peer review described by Western by mid-December 2013. Les Poch provided new runs of the power model and an assessment of the economic impact of reoperating Flaming Gorge Dam for endangered fish species for the period 2001 – 2011 and those were discussed with Cost Subcommittee members on January 24 and 25. 2/7/13: **Clayton Palmer** will think we can get to an estimate of power costs in time for Management Committee approval by mid-December 2013 (to meet the deadline for the 2014 briefing book), but it will depend on other priorities (like LTEMP); >Clayton will let the Committee know if they can meet the deadline for next year's briefing book. Other contributions which still need to be documented include those from water users and also some from the Colorado's Species Conservation Trust Fund. These need to be described in a table and provided for Management Committee review/approval before they're included in the pie chart. 4/2/13: Clayton has established a deadline of no later than the end of the FY to reach a conclusion on replacement power costs. He has a conference call with Argonne tomorrow to discuss the capacity issue. Clayton anticipates the document will be ready within about a month or so. Tom Chart asked that Clayton send it to the team before sending it out for peer review; Clayton agreed. John Shields noted they did get questions about the \$44M estimated power replacement costs on the D.C. trip. Tom Pitts is working on the additional water user contributions (should include \$945K CRWCD contribution for OMID reservoir site). **Michelle Garrison** will provide information on any funds from the Native Species Trust Fund (e.g., OMID grant, the*

*\$250K approved for the White River, CPW expenditures). For NSTF funds, it may be best to report by project once they're all expended. 8/14/13: The **Water Users** will provide 10,825 costs.*

2. The **Program Director's office** will finalize the basinwide strategy (the PDO will provide a more specific date - hopefully, in time to affect RIPRAP changes in 2013). *Revised document sent to Management and Biology committees on January 13, 2013; meeting held with States' Fish Chiefs May 21-22; PD's office finalized for Program review; Biology and Information & Education committees comments due October 31, 2013.*
3. RIPRAP:
  - a. General: To provide ample time for **Program participants** to provide recommendations for improving the RIPRAP, the deadline for comments was changed to June 1 (and subsequently June 11). After comments are received, the **Program Director's office** will compile and share them with the Management and technical committees along with recommendations for how to proceed. *7/31/13: No comments received; PD's office will finalize 2013 RIPRAP and consider more general RIPRAP revisions/"tune-up" next year.*
  - b. Text: the **Program Director's office** will update the table of contents.
  - c. Tables: the **Program Director's office** will: 1) add stocking records back to 1996 (*done*); 2) Green River - provide wording to revise rows 48-50 regarding the Price River and provide that to Management Committee for final approval (and will reference Price River Position paper [in line 46]) (*done*); 3) Green River – reference the completed report in the merged cells of line 73 (*pending*); and 4) add a new item for Miramonte to the Dolores table (*done*). **Melissa Trammell** offered to continue looking for what documents commit the Program to addressing this reach of the Colorado River below the confluence with the Green River (*done*). **Tom Chart, Pat Martinez, Dave Speas, and Harry Crockett** will add language to assessment column of row 7 of the Dolores table regarding that work group and provide that to the Management Committee along with the Price River language (*pending*).
4. **Michelle Garrison** will discuss with Ted Kowalski (and get back to Brent or Bob Norman) on the proposal of having the Programs ask the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to obligate \$200K of Colorado's San Juan NFWF funds by putting an "Upper Basin" label on them and then invoicing against that \$200K for Upper Colorado NFWF capital expenditures (e.g., Tusher \$40K and others) in the future.
5. The **Service** will do a news release on completion of the 10,825 contracts and releases now being made. *Pending.*
6. The **Program Director's office** will work with Tom Pitts and John Shields to define the impacts of sequestration in terms of a list of activities/projects the Program isn't funding this year and next and how we're going to deal with that. *Done.*